



HOLLISTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

#10-035

Hollister Police Arrest 5 During DUI/Driver's License Checkpoint Over Holiday Weekend

HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA – *July 7, 2010* – On Friday, July 2, 2010 The Hollister Police Department conducted a Driving Under the Influence and Driver's License Checkpoint on San Felipe Road and Gateway Drive. Five persons were arrested and 17 citations were issued during the five-hour operation.

Checkpoint operations began at about 7:30 p.m. and ended at about 11:30 p.m.

One of the contacts at the checkpoint involved a vehicle occupied by four persons. The driver, 20-year-old Joshua Florez, was arrested for driving under the influence. During the contact, officers also found a set of brass knuckles, an illegal weapon in California. In addition, officers found marijuana packaged for sale. All four occupants, including Florez, 20-year-old Gilberto Lizarragazavala, and two 16-year-old males, and were booked for the crimes. Officers are pursuing gang enhancement allegations.

In another stop, officers arrested 40-year-old Luis Horta for DUI. In Horta's car officers found a fighting rooster, possession of which is also against the law. Horta was booked for the DUI; charges for possessing the fighting rooster will be sought.

Twelve persons were cited for driving without a driver license, and four others were cited for driving with a suspended license.

"The checkpoint was very successful," said Hollister Police Chief Jeff Miller. "I have always said that traffic enforcement is a gateway to the discovery of other crimes, and the results of the checkpoint have proven this. Not only did we remove from the roadway two people suspected of driving under the influence, officers arrested four suspected gang members and one person for having a fighting rooster. These crimes might otherwise have gone undetected."

Funding for checkpoint was made possible by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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